

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

GLADYS NOON SPELLMAN PARKWAY **E-13; D-14**

Route 295 • Connecting Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

A part of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway is named in honor of Gladys Noon Spellman, former Chair of the Prince George's County Commissioners, leader of the County Council, and a former congresswoman from Prince George's County. She was the first woman elected President of the National Association of Counties. An educator and leader in the areas of women's rights, civil rights, and social justice, Gladys Spellman also worked on having the Parkway built to improve transportation in the Washington/Baltimore region. She served in Congress for six years and died in 1988. An overpass linking Old Greenbelt and Eleanor Roosevelt High School is also named in her honor.



*Gladys Noon
Spellman*

ADELE H. STAMP STUDENT UNION **F-13**

University of Maryland • College Park, Maryland 20742 • 301-314-3375

The first Dean of Women (1922-1960) at the University of Maryland was Adele H. Stamp (1893-1974). She had a profound influence on the educational and career goals of women. She founded several organizations for women on campus and in the larger community, such as the Women's Student Government Association and the College Park Branch of AAUW. She served on the state board of the League of Women Voters and was a delegate to three national Democratic conventions. In 1983 the University's student union building was named in her honor.

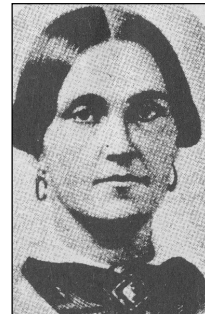


Adele H. Stamp

MARY SURRETT HOUSE **H-14**

9118 Brandywine Road • Brandywine, Maryland 20613

Mary Surratt (1823-1865) was the first woman executed by the U.S. government. In the national outpouring of emotion following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, she was convicted by a military court of conspiring with John Wilkes Booth and others to kill the President. To this day, no one is sure if she was really guilty. Mary's husband, John, built Surratt House as a tavern and family home. It was also a polling place and post office. After her husband died in 1862, the widowed Mary moved to Washington, D.C., where she opened a rooming house and where Booth sometimes visited her sons. Surratt House now is preserved as a historic property.



Mary Surratt

THE WOODYARD ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE **G-13**

Woodyard Road • Clinton, Maryland 20735

Ann Joice was born about 1660 in the West Indies. She was a mulatto, who was taken as a child to England and trained as a cook. She came to Maryland as an indentured servant and worked for the family of Henry Darnall, the richest man in the county, at his home, The Woodyard. When her indenture was up, he burned her papers. When she objected, he imprisoned her in a cellar for most of a year. He kept her as a slave to the end of her life in 1735. In 1799 her grandson was able to show that the records of the ship that brought her to Maryland listed her as indentured, and therefore free.

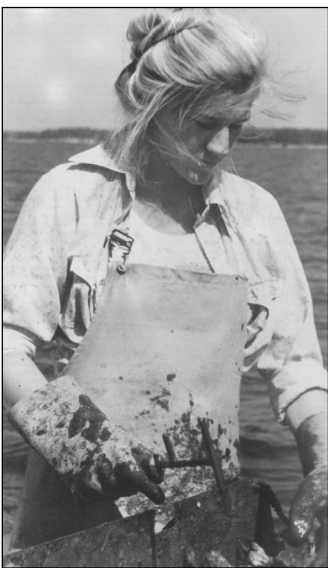
MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

CRAY HOUSE **E-16**

Cockey's Lane • Box 321 • Stevensville, Maryland 21666 • 410-604-2100

Built around 1809, this house on the National Register of Historic Sites was owned by several women during its history. The house last belonged to Nora Cray, who lived here in the 1900's as a single parent who raised nine children.



*Laura Era
waterwoman*

QUEEN ANNE'S MUSEUM OF EASTERN SHORE LIFE **E-16**

126 Dulin Clark Road • P.O. Box 525 • Centreville, Maryland 21617 • 410-758-1419 • 410-822-6109

The museum is dedicated to collecting, preserving and displaying artifacts relating to the Eastern Shore. Many of these artifacts relate to the lives of Eastern Shore women.

TRAIN STATION MUSEUM **E-17**

101 Linden Street • Sudlersville, Maryland 21668 • 410-438-3501

Housed in a building constructed around 1885, this museum includes exhibits on local women such as Mrs. Roberts, an early 20th century Girl Scout leader, and Ann Coleman, an inductee in the Softball Hall of Fame.

TUCKER HOUSE **E-16**

Route 2, Box 310 • 124 South Commerce Street • Centreville, Maryland 21617 • 410-604-2100

One of the oldest houses in Centreville, built around 1792, it reflects the lifestyle of women and their families in the 18th and early 19th century.

SOMERSET COUNTY

BEACH TO BAY AMERICAN INDIAN TRAIL **J-18, 19**

Somerset to Worcester County

A national recreation trail in Somerset and Worcester Counties, this area has been recognized for its historical significance by the U.S. Department of the Interior. It follows a similar trail used by the Assateague, Pocomoke, Monokh, Animus and Acuinticas Indians, and today reflects the patterns of fishing, farming, and timbering activities used by Native Americans and European colonists, both women and men.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

EASTERN SHORE EARLY AMERICAN MUSEUM L-17

30195 Rehobeth Road • Marion Station, Maryland 21838

The museum contains displays of thousands of items used by rural women and men from the 18th and 19th centuries.



Janice Marshall

SMITH ISLAND CRAB-PICKERS COOPERATIVE L-17

21128 Warf Street • Tylerton, Maryland 21866 • 410-968-1244

Smith Island residents' livelihood is heavily dependent upon the seafood industry. Prior to 1997 the women of Smith Island picked crabs in their homes to supplement their family's income. Once word of the successful crab picking operation in Tylerton spread, the Maryland Department of Health required that the state's health regulations be closely monitored and strictly adhered to, curtailing this home-based industry. Subsequently, through the efforts of Janice Marshall, a sixth generation Smith Islander, the first Smith Island Crab-Pickers Co-operative (SICC) was formed. There were initially five co-operative members; Janice and her daughter Robin Marshall, Tina Corbin, Patty Laird and Kattie Schoff-Stall. This has always been an all female-owned and operated business. Janice Marshall also secured grant funding from Farmers Home Administration which aided in the refurbishing of a general store which now houses the Smith Island Crabmeat Co-operative, Inc. A Governor's Citation was bestowed upon the women of Smith Island Crabmeat Co-operative, Inc. by Gov. Parris Glendening, recognizing their spirit and determination in preserving a vital and traditional way of life for the people of Smith Island. "Through their leadership, an endeavor was founded to sustain their livelihood ... trusting their faith and partnering with the State of Maryland, a licensed crab picking facility now produces some of the world's finest crabmeat."

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

ST. MARY'S COUNTY



MARGARET BRENT GARDEN **K-15**

Historic St. Mary's City • Off Route 5 • St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686

The nation's first woman to ask for the right to vote, and Maryland's first female landowner, Margaret Brent arrived here from her native England in 1638. Her historic stand for equal rights came ten years later, when Brent appeared before the general assembly of the colony, asked to be admitted as a member, and demanded not only one vote but two—one as an attorney, the other as a landowner. The Assembly was amazed at her audacity. "What man would ever dream of such a thing," they marveled, and promptly said "no." Undismayed, Brent continued buying up all the land and keeping the men of Maryland's first capital city honest by hauling them before the law for any misdeed. She entered the court 124 times in eight years, winning every case. The men of the Assembly never denied her anything except what she wanted the most, the right to vote. It would take almost three centuries for Brent's followers throughout the nation to get even half of the two votes per woman she sought. The garden contains a gazebo in commemoration of Brent's achievements. (Also see listing for "Historic St. Mary's City.")

HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY **K-15**

Route 5 and Rosecroft Road • South of Leonardtown, Maryland 20686 • 1-800-762-1634

This is an outdoor living history museum at the site of Maryland's first 17th century capital. It was here that the Ark and the Dove landed in 1634, marking the beginning of the British Colony of Maryland. Costumed guides recreate the lives of men and women, including Margaret Brent. There are also Native American exhibits at this site. (Also see listing for "Margaret Brent Garden.")

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

SOTTERLY PLANTATION I-14

44300 Sotterly Lane • Hollywood, Maryland 20636 • 301-373-2280

Designated a National Historic Landmark, the 300 year old plantation with outbuildings provides educational exhibits and programs about the lives of the women and men who lived and worked here. Among the women of Sotterly Plantation was Elizabeth Rousby Plater, born in 1751. She saved her husband from being captured by British soldiers during the American Revolution, and her life was the subject of a 1910 play, "Mistress Fitzhugh." Mary Blades (1814-1886) was hired to teach at a boarding school at Sotterly, run by plantation owner Dr. Briscoe. She expanded the traditional home management skills taught to girls at the time by adding history, geography and grammar, and later went on to become the Principal of St. Mary's Female Seminary. Alice Elsa Kane (1840-1889) was a slave at Sotterly from the age of nine, living in a 16x18 foot log cabin on the plantation and working as a laundress in the main house. She also wove cloth and learned the arts of quilting and needlework. Elsa and her husband lived in the cabin at Sotterly for 15 years following emancipation.



Sotterly

ST MARY'S COUNTY COURTHOUSE I-14

41625 Courthouse Drive • Leonardtown, Maryland 20650 • 301-475-2467

The building dates to 1848 and was used as the St. Mary's Jail until 1942. Visitors can learn about life in a mid-19th century jail and the legend of Moll Dyer. Moll Dyer was a late 17th century resident of Leonardtown who brewed herbal remedies that she used to help cure townspeople of various ailments. When there were crop failures and other problems in town, Molly was labeled as a witch and her neighbors burned her house down to drive her away. The legend notes that she escaped the fire and hid in a field. She died of hypothermia that night and neighbors found her the next morning with her hand frozen to a rock. That rock stands outside the courthouse today. The legend notes that those residents who set the fire experienced bad luck after Moll died.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

TUDOR HALL I-14

Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Tudor Hall, dating from the mid 1700's, represents a colonial house that grew and changed with each century. It is all that remains of a plantation of more than 1,000 acres that reflected Leonardtown's history as early as 1649. In the 1940's the house was purchased by Margaret Patterson Davidson to be restored and donated to St. Mary's County in memory of local soldiers who died in World Wars I and II. Gertrude Sawyer, an architect, directed the restoration and Eloise Pickerell served as librarian. When Mrs. Davidson died her friends completed her restoration project, and the property now is owned by the St. Mary's Historical Society.

TALBOT COUNTY

AVALON THEATRE G-17

40 East Dover Street • Easton, Maryland 21601 • 410-822-0345 • www.avalontheatre.com

The Avalon Theatre, built in 1921, has undergone several transformations, but presently flourishes due to the efforts, spirit, and creativity of Ellen General. The Avalon became a "Showplace of the Eastern Shore," and in 1934, the theatre was completely redesigned with an Art Deco theme that still stands today. Its reputation as a movie house grew quickly. Eastern Shore movie-goers saw three world premieres including "The First Kiss" starring Gary Cooper and Fay Rae, which was filmed in Easton and St. Michaels. Due largely to the efforts of Ms. General the Avalon has been transformed into the Shore's most active performing arts center and has earned a reputation as one of the best concert venues in the area. It also hosts a variety of other events, including film screenings, and dramatic and musical theatre. Today the Avalon highlights such women as jazz performer Ethel Ennis, Saffire—The Uppity Blues Women, and Jane Monheit. It continues to reign as an important contributor to the social, educational and artistic fibers of its community.



CHESAPEAKE BAY MARITIME MUSEUM G-16

Navy Point-Mill Street • P.O. Box 97 • St. Michaels, Maryland 21663 • 410-745-2916 • www.cbmm.org

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's 18-acre campus with nine exhibit buildings, six historic structures, a working boat yard, floating fleet, and research library, is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and study of the heritage of the Chesapeake Bay. The museum's library includes oral history collections which document women's roles in bay maritime life. These collections include extensive interviews with and photographs of crab pickers on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, traditional artists from the Delmarva Peninsula, as well as women who were involved in recreational activities and support industries around the bay. Some manuscript collections also include historical information about individual women, such as the James Adams Floating Theater Collection which documents the life and career of actress Beulah Adams Hunter in the early 1900's. The museum's newest exhibition on oystering includes the working,

family, and community roles held by women in the oystering businesses and towns on the Bay. Future permanent exhibitions on recreation and seafood industries on the bay will continue to include women's history in their content.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE **F-16**

Wye Mills, Maryland 21679 • 410-820-8090

For 27 years Ruth Orrell taught at the Little Red Schoolhouse. A Talbot County landmark, it remained in use until the 1960's, and is now a museum.

THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE **G-17**

405 South Washington Street • Easton, Maryland 21601 • 410-822-0293

Third Haven is the oldest religious building still in use in the country and the oldest dated structure in the state. Elizabeth Harris, the founder of Maryland Quakerism and perhaps the “mother” of American Quakerism, had success in the Chesapeake Bay area and was able to bring a sizable Quaker community into being. When one steps into the old meeting house it is a reminder of past meetings when men and women were separated, but also a reminder of the Society of Friends (Quakers) dedication to literacy for all, religious freedom, peace, equality, abolition of slavery, and the women's rights movement. Third Haven Quakers have a rich history of strong women from the founder of Maryland Quakerism, to Anna and Mabel Gillespie for their financial help preserving the meetinghouse in the 1930's, to Mary Bartlett Dixon Cullen who built the caretaker's cottage in the 1960's, to today's clerk, Marsie Hawkinson.

AMELIA WELBY HOUSE **G-16**

Mulberry Street • St. Michaels, Maryland 21663

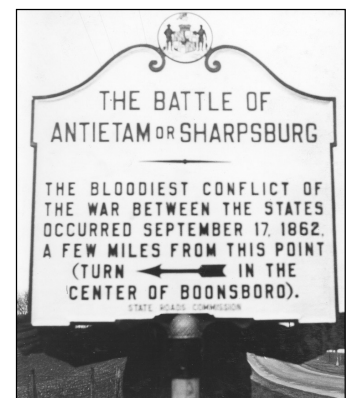
“Very few American poets are at all comparable with her in the true poetical qualities,” said Edgar Allen Poe about the woman who was born in a modest house in 1819. Amelia Welby's poetic genius was apparent when she was only thirteen, but she hid her poems, written on scraps of paper, in an old drawer. Unfortunately she died a scant twenty years later. Critics agreed that had she been able to complete her life's work, “she might have gained a place second to none in the annals of American poetry.” The house no longer stands.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD **C-9**

Mansfield Avenue • Antietam, Maryland 21740

On the eve of the bloodiest battle of the civil war, Clara Barton watched the smoke of the two armies' campfires and wrote in her diary, “I was faint, but could not eat; weary, but could not sleep; depressed but could not weep,” and she prayed for the strength to fulfill “the terrible duties of the coming day.” As she had feared, September 17, 1862, dawned disastrously, and in the end 23,000 men were dead or wounded. Through the smoke and fire, Barton cleaned wounds, brought lantern light to the surgeons, and prepared gruel for the line of fighting men. Today her courage is marked by a roughhewn marble slab adorned with a small red cross made of bricks from her birthplace in North Oxford, Massachusetts. As the bronze plaque proclaims, Clara Barton's “act of love and mercy led to the birth of the American National Red Cross” two decades later. (Also see listing for “Clara Barton Memorial Park.”)



MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

BEAVER CREEK SCHOOL **B-9**

135 W. Washington Street • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740 • 301-797-8782

This turn-of-the century one-room schoolhouse is now a museum with a hat shop and dressmaker's parlor.

ANGELA KIRKAM DAVIS HOUSE **B-9**

29 West Baltimore Street • Funkstown, Maryland 21734

The Battle of Antietam, fought in September 1862, claimed more than 23,000 soldiers killed, wounded, or missing in action, and became the single bloodiest day of the Civil War. The civilian populace, including many women, helped countless wounded and dying soldiers, and cared for the dead. One of those women was Angela Kirkham Davis. Although a Union supporter, Mrs. Davis provided water for Confederate as well as Union troops. When asked why she provided water to the Rebels, she replied, "Because our Heavenly Father taught us to give a cup of cold water, even to our enemies." After the Battle of Antietam, Angela Davis and her husband Joseph took food to the battlefield. She comforted the wounded and dying and took a wounded officer into her home for nursing. She later wrote her account of these times in a work entitled, "War Reminiscences: A Letter to My Nieces." Mrs. Davis serves as a symbol of all the women of Washington County who gave comfort to the soldiers during the Civil War.

MARGUERITE ANN KELSH DOLEMAN HOME AND BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM **B-9**

540 North Locust Street • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740 • 301-739-8185

Mrs. Doleman was a historian, community activist, church worker, lecturer, researcher, and author. Born in Philadelphia in 1920, she moved to Hagerstown in 1935. In 1972 she began her research on the history of African Americans in Washington County. She gathered information from court records, advertisements, maps, the census and church records. This culminated in the publication of her book, "We the Blacks of Washington County" in 1976. The same year also saw the opening of the Black History Museum in the Doleman home on Locust Street. The museum consists of Mrs. Doleman's collection of African American artifacts and memorabilia. Mrs. Doleman died November 2000.



Early Bookmobile

MARY LEMIST TITCOMB MEMORIAL **B-9**

Hagerstown Library • 100 South Potomac Street • (Former Residence – 326 Summit Ave.) • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

A plaque commemorates Mary Lemist Titcomb, who opened the Washington County Free Library in 1901, the second working county library in the United States. Within two years, the library was operating 22 stations outside of Hagerstown. Wanting even more people to have access to books, in 1904 Mary Titcomb came up with the idea of a book wagon to bring books directly to remote houses—to "isolated and unaware people." This was the origin of the bookmobile, now an international movement.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

WILLIAMSPORT C&O CANAL VISITOR'S CENTER **B-9**

205 West Potomac Street • Williamsport,
MD 21795 • 301-582-0813

Most women who lived and worked along the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal were housewives of lock keepers or canal boatmen, but they also held positions as shop keepers, postmasters, missionaries, bakers, lock keepers and boat captains. C&O Canal National Historical Park has park rangers available to interpret the roles of women in requested programs and the Williamsport Visitor Center periodically has on display information about women's life on the canal. (Also see listing for "Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park" in Allegany County.)



WICOMICO COUNTY

CHARLES H. CHIPMAN CULTURAL CENTER **I-19**

Charles H. Chipman Cultural Center • 321 Broad Street • Salisbury, Maryland 21801 • 410-860-9290

This is the oldest standing African-American church in the Delaware/Maryland/Virginia area, built around 1838. Exhibits focus on the history, religion, culture, arts, and achievements of African American women and men in the region.

EDWARD H. NABB RESEARCH CENTER FOR DELAMARVA HISTORY **I-19**

Salisbury University • 1101 Camden Ave. • Salisbury, Maryland 21801 • 410-543-6312

This is a regional repository for Eastern Shore historical artifacts, books, and family histories. It includes several collections related to Eastern Shore women.

PEMBERTON HISTORICAL PARK **I-19**

Pemberton Drive • P.O. Box 573 • Salisbury, Maryland 21803

The 207 acre park on the banks of the Wicomico River includes Pemberton Hall, a historic 18th century plantation house. The home was built in 1741 for Isaac and Ann Hardy. Also on the property is the Wicomico Heritage Center, which includes historic documents and artifacts relating to the lives of Ann and Isaac Hardy and of other women and men in Colonial Wicomico County.

MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

WORCHESTER COUNTY



AYRESBILT AND LANKFORD HOTEL I-19

8th Street and the Boardwalk • Ocean City, Maryland 21842

The Ayresbilt Apartment complex, named for Virginia Dale Ayres Swindler (1845-1964), is part of the Lankford Hotel complex. This hotel is one of the best preserved of the old hotels to remain in Ocean City. When Virginia Dale Ayres Swindler was widowed and became the sole support of their three children, she moved to Ocean City and began her career in real estate, an occupation mainly held by men. Ocean City, having a full-time population of under 1000, was a quiet retreat for tourists and the sales market for beach properties was limited. Virginia placed her emphasis on beach property rentals and claimed to be the first realtor on the beach. She helped form the nucleus of the huge empire of real estate as it now stands in modern Ocean City. Virginia was often seen walking the

Boardwalk with a large key ring looped over her arm. The keys to almost every apartment in town were on this ring. Additionally she helped to organize the Ocean City Women's Club and served as its first president. Virginia was the first president of the Coastal Realty Board and was instrumental in its growth and success.



Anna Adkins Burbage

BURBAGE FUNERAL HOME

I-21

108 William Street • Berlin, Maryland 21811

Anna Adkins Burbage (1893-1985) began her professional career as a manual arts instructor at age 16. She was perhaps the only female teacher of this type in the State, working in Berlin, Pocomoke and Stockton. It was at this time that she became interested in aiding children, which continued throughout her lifetime. From 1927 until 1944 Anna and her husband John operated the family-owned business, The Burbage Funeral Home, established in 1810 (oldest in Maryland). Upon her husband's death Anna managed the business. For more than 30 years Anna also provided life-saving care and services to the needy of Worcester County. She bought and maintained the only ambulance in Berlin, the only oxygen tent, and donated other medical equipment to the community. She will always be remembered for her compassion as well as her personal and financial contributions to her community.



Myrtle Ashburn Polk

COSTEN HOUSE

J-18

Pocomoke City, Maryland

Costen House was built by Dr. Isaac Costen shortly after the Civil War and was lived in by members of his family for over a century. He became Pocomoke's first Mayor in 1888. Myrtle Ashburn Polk was responsible for preserving the Costen House. She began her career in Maryland politics in 1948, where she won a seat on the Pocomoke City Town Council, becoming the first woman to serve in that position. In 1950 she ran for the House of Delegates, representing Worcester County. She was elected for two terms. She sponsored many progressive bills during her tenure, fighting to abolish segregated restrooms in public places and for jury service for women in Worcester County. Myrtle worked to develop the first Worcester County Garden Club, Worcester County Historical Society, and the first